



5.
PATENT

2176
FR9 1999 0097
IBM-210

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of	:	Carro, et al.
Serial Number	:	09/754,845
Filing Date	:	January 4, 2001
Examiner	:	To Be Assigned
Group Art Unit	:	2176
For	:	METHOD AND SYSTEM OF MARKING A TEXT DOCUMENT WITH A PATTERN OF EXTRA BLANKS FOR AUTHENTICATION

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Technology Center 2100

TO: The Honorable Commissioner of Patents
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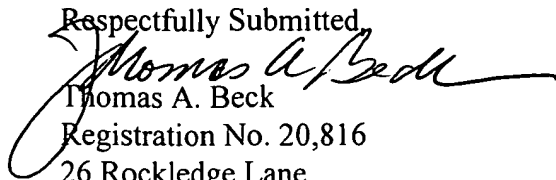
RESPONSE

Sir:

In response to the *Notice Of Incomplete Reply (Nonprovisional)* dated September 9, 2001, Applicants hereby declare that the signature of inventor Stephen M. Matyas was present on a declaration form that was submitted timely concurrently with the signature of Fernando Incertis Carro to the United States Patent Office. The undersigned has no knowledge why the declaration form containing Mr. Matyas's signature was not received by the Patent Office. A copy of the executed declaration that was submitted timely was enclosed in the submission filed by Applicants on September 11, 2001.

A subsequent copy of the inventor's signature executed on July 12, 2001 is enclosed.

Respectfully Submitted,


Thomas A. Beck

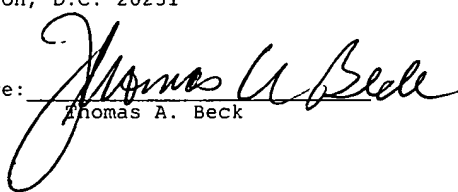
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I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited on the date indicated below with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class Mail addressed to Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231

Signature: 

Name: Thomas A. Beck

Date: September 24, 2001